Daily Report

Latin America

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Cuba

CSSR Foreign Minister Chnoupek Arrives on Visit

FL1306165588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, arrived last night in Cuba at the invitation of Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, his Cuban counterpart, who welcomed him at the Jose Marti International Airport.

The visitor attended the UN meeting on disarmament and will hold official talks with Malmierca this morning. At noon, he will receive the diplomatic corps accredited in Cuba.

Further on Arrival

LD1206221188 Prague CTK in English 2025 GMT 12 Jun 88

[Text] Havana June 12 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek today arrived on an official friendly visit to Cuba.

Czechoslovakia was one of the first countries to establish close friendly relations with the Cuban Republic after the victory of the Cuban revolution in 1959.

Since Cuba's first steps as the first country of socialism in Latin America, Czechoslovakia has granted it all-round assistance, supplying it with machinery, equipment and complete plants and training its personnel.

Significant moments in the relations between the two countries and their communist parties included the visits of Cuban Communist Party First Secretary Fidel Castro to Czechoslovakia in 1972 and Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Gustav Husak to Cuba in 1973. The present visit of Bohuslav Chnoupek takes place seven years after his previous visit to Cuba.

Cuba is now Czechoslovakia's most important trade partner in Latin America besides Brazil. Last year's trade turnover between the two countries was worth 330 million rubles.

Czechoslovak exports are dominated by machinery and equipment, chemical products, malt, hops and consumer goods and imports by cane sugar, fresh citrus fruits, citrus fruit concentrates and oils and molasses. Cuba also supplies Czechoslovakia with nickel, copper concentrates and chrome ores.

Since 1979, Czechoslovakia has been training Cuban workers and their present number is about 10,000.

Speaks to Journalists

LD1306130088 Prague CTK in English 1105 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Havana June 13 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek launched his official friendly visit to Cuba today.

He arrived here last night from New York where he headed the Czechoslovak delegation at the Third Special U.N. General Assembly Session on Disarmament.

On arrival here Bohuslav Chnoupek told journalists that the improved world atmosphere, created due to the peace offensive of socialist countries and certain realism of some Western countries, has a positive influence on the session. There is great hope that the session will bring positive results.

Bohuslav Chnoupek underlined the principal attitude Cuba has taken to questions of peace and disarmament at the New York session. He appreciated the fact that due to Cuban initiative an extraordinary ministerial meeting of non-aligned countries took place, which issued an important document on disarmament.

Cited on Disarmament Meeting

FL1306184088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1258 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, arrived last night in Havana at the official invitation of our government. Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban foreign minister, welcomed the CSSR visitor and his entourage, who will remain in our country until 15 May. During his stay in Cuba a cultural agreement will be signed between the two countries.

The CSSR foreign minister came here from New York, where he attended the third UN General Assembly special conference on disarmament.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Minister, how do you think the debates are progressing at the third UN General Assembly special meeting on disarmament, and how can they contribute to greater development of peace and international security?

[Chnoupek, in vernacular with consecutive Spanish translation] I think the world environment has improved and that all this is reflected in the speeches heard at the UN meeting. I would like to stress on this occasion the great contribution of the sister Republic of Cuba which has been the promoter of the Nonaligned Movement conference in Havana, where a very important document was approved. This document has also been presented in New York and it includes great goals.

We think the fact that this Nonaligned Movement document, in its main points, is identical to those of socialist countries is no mere coincidence. The CSSR has been a preparations coordinator for socialist countries and we have participated in the formulation of our countries' proposals. That confirms the similarity of opinions on peace, strengthening of peace, and disarmament in general. [end recording]

Holds Talks With Malmierca

FL1306211588 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1932 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, member of the PCC Central Committee, presented the diplomatic corps accredited to Cuba to CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek today at noon. The CSSR diplomat is fulfilling an invitation made by his Cuban counterpart. They held official talks at the Minrex [Foreign Ministry] this morning.

An agreement between the House of Czechoslovak Culture in Havana and the House of Cuban Culture in Prague is scheduled to be signed at the Minrex tomorrow at 1130.

Matters relating to foreign policy and the highest level of cooperation between the two parties, government, and peoples were discussed during the official talks.

CTK Reports on Talks

LD1306214988 Prague CTK in English 1931 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Havana June 13 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek, currently on an official friendly visit to Cuba, started today discussions with his Cuban counterpart Isidoro Malmierca.

Bohuslav Chnoupek briefed the Cuban foreign minister on the further elaboration of the recent proposal submitted by General Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Milos Jakes for the creation of a zone of confidence, cooperation and good neighbourly relations on the line dividing the Warsaw Treaty and NATO states. The Cuban side considers this proposal a valuable contribution to the effort for the strengthening of peace in Europe and an initiative which is advantageous for all European countries.

The two ministers appreciated the systematic cooperation between Cuba and Czechoslovakia at all levels and stressed the identity of opinions on fundamental questions of the building of socialism, foreign policy and the international communist and workers' movement.

The economic, scientific and technological cooperation has been dynamically developing. A new impulse for its development was the recent 12th session of the intergovernmental committee, the ministers pointed out.

Isidoro Malmierca gave them a luncheon to honor the Czechoslovak guest. They appreciated the current improvement of the atmosphere in the world and expressed support for the proposals for a peaceful and just solution of the regional conflicts.

Further on Najibullah Visit, Agreements Signed

FL1306172588 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, was at the Jose Marti Airport today to bid farewell to Najibullah, secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and president of the Republic of Afghanistan. After reviewing the honor (?guard), Fidel and Najibullah greeted party, state, and government officials, as well as representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to our country. PCC Politburo members Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Armando Hart, and Jorge Risquet Valdes were among the officials present. [passage omitted including indistinct portions]

Shortly before departure, our commander in chief and Najibullah signed a friendship and cooperation treaty. The treaty, the first of its kind signed by Cuba and Afghanistan, will be in effect indefinitely and will help strengthen the friendship between the Afghan and Cuban peoples. After the signing, Najibullah stated that the treaty guaranteed the future development of bilateral relations and that his people were greatly honored by the fact that the document had been signed by Fidel. The commander in chief in turn described the treaty as a beautiful symbol of mutual relations, and said that its signing was the culmination of the Afghan leader's visit to Cuba. It underscored the significance of Najibullah's stay in Cuba at a time when his presence in his own country was so important. Fidel added that Cuba fully supports the Afghan president's policy.

Prior to the signing of this treaty, Foreign Ministers Isidoro Malmierca and Abdul Wakil initialed a cultural and educational cooperation protocol.

Former Dominican President Bosch To Give Lecture

FL0906215588 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Former Dominican President Juan Bosch, narrator, essayist, and professor, acknowledged as one of the most relevant scholars of Eugenio Maria de Hostos, the illustrious Puerto Rican figure, will give a lecture entitled: Hostos, Antillean Sower, on the occasion of Hostos' 150th birthday, which will be marked in January. The lecture will be given at the House of the Americas today at 1730. Juan Bosch, who is the most important living writer in his country, was

one of the judges for the House of the Americas literary award. The House of the Americas published his books "From Christopher Colombus to Fidel Castro," "The Caribbean, Imperial Frontier," and an anthology of his short stories. During Rafael Leonidas Trujillos' dictatorship, Bosch spent more than 24 years in exile in various Latin American countries, including 19 years in Cuba. He returned to his fatherland in 1961 and was elected president of the Republic in 1962.

Bosch is member of the permanent committee of the conference of intellectuals for the sovereignty of the peoples of our America. He is in our country at the invitation of the revolutionary government.

Awarded by Fidel Castro

FL1306225788 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Jun 88

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has bestowed the Jose Marti National Order upon Juan Bosch Gavino, the prominent Dominican intellectual and anti-imperialist politician. The Council of State decided to confer the outstanding distinction on Dr Bosch on the occasion of his 80th birthday because of his remarkable achievements as writer and staunch supporter of the Cuban revolution. The ceremony took place at the Palace of the Revolution. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Armando Hart Davalos, members of the PCC Politburo, other Central Committee members, and representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Cuba attended the event.

Culture Minister Armando Hart said that Dr Bosch's loyalty to the democratic ideal, his unyielding defense of popular interests, and deep-rooted anti-imperialist stance place him among those personalities who leave their mark on history forever and as a figure people have to know, study, and learn from through the example set by his life.

In his words of appreciation, Dr Bosch gave another example of his natural modesty when he said he had given nothing to Cuba: On the contrary, Cuba has given me everything I am. Addressing the leader of the revolution, he added: Instead of receiving this medal, I should be giving Cuba the little good that is within me.

Castro Meets Ecuador's Frank Vargas Pazzos

FL1006140888 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received retired General Frank Vargas Pazzos, former Ecuadoran presidential candidate who is visiting our country at the head of delegation from the Popular Patriotic Union [Unidad Patriotica Popular].

During the talks last night at the Palace of the Revolution, they discussed the socioeconomic development of our country, as well as the international situation.

The Ecuadoran delegation arrived in Cuba on 31 May as part of a tour of Latin America. They have visited economic and social centers and historic sites in Santiago de Cuba and Havana City provinces.

Vice Foreign Minister Alarcon Visits Ecuador

Meets Febres-Cordero

FL1006155988 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Ecuadoran President Leon Febres-Cordero has received a Cuban delegation headed by Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon. The Cuban delegation is fulfilling an exchange agreement between the two countries' foreign ministries for the purpose of periodically examining bilateral relations.

Alarcon also met with the president of parliament, (Jose Sabala Bacriso).

Concludes Visit

FL1406024588 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0202 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] Ricardo Alarcon, vice foreign minister of Cuba, has arrived in our country after a 1-week official visit to Ecuador, where he signed a cultural agreement between the two countries. Alarcon met with Ecuadoran President Leon Febres-Cordero and attended working meetings at the Foreign Ministry in which the state of bilateral relations was reviewed and characterized as friendly.

Nicaraguan Ambassador Comments on Contra Talks

FL1406011088 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jun 88

["Remarks" by Gustavo Moreno, Nicaraguan ambassador to Cuba and member of the Sandinist Assembly, during a tour to the Isle of Youth; date not given— recorded]

[Text] First of all, we believe the contras have removed their masks with regard to their lack of interest in achieving peace. We have come out strong inasmuch as we accepted the contras' proposal, and once we accepted it they refused to sign their own proposal. So, their lack of interest in achieving peace has been revealed. Second, we continue to show flexibility.

We say, all right, their objective was to destroy peace, destroy Sapoa. Nevertheless, let's continue the talks. However, we see the maneuvers of the contras. They wanted to withdraw from Contadora, later from the

Support Group and Esquipulas agreements, and now from Sapoa. What they have done is to find the way not to sign anything. They have said they are going to abide by the cease-fire. This statement was made but nothing has been signed. They signed nothing this time. They did not sign an agreement, not even a minimal agreement such as setting a date for the next meeting. So, the repercussions this could have are not favorable to the counterrevolution and favor the Sandinist forces.

Moncada Anniverary Military Maneuvers Conclude

R. Castro in Santiago de Cuba

FL1006154988 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Army General Raul Castro yesterday visited Santiago de Cuba Province at the beginning of the second stage of the maneuvers called "35th Anniversary of the Moncada Barracks Assault."

Esteban Lazo, first party secretary in Santiago de Cuba, briefed Raul on how the people prepare themselves to carry out the war of all the people, if it becomes necessary. Lazo also gave a detailed explanation of the most important socioeconomic aspects of the province.

The FAR minister visited several defense zones and attended a military [word indistinct] event last night at the Guillermo Moncada Stadium.

Speaking to more than 35,000 residents of Santiago de Cuba, Raul conveyed congratulations on behalf of the commander in chief on being selected as the site for the main celebration on 26 July.

Leaders Visit Holguin Province

FL1106150088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 11 Jun 88

[Text] A group of leaders headed by Army General Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee and minister of the FAR, has visited various areas of Holguin Province where the "35th Anniversary of the Moncada Barracks Assault" maneuvers are taking place. These exercises show the defensive preparedness of the territory's population.

Raul and those accompanying him were received by Miguel Cano Blanco, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the provincial defense council. In his welcoming remarks, Cano Blanco outlined the history of the area where the meeting took place.

More on Holguin Activities

FL1106190388 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Jun 88

[Text] The activities of the 5th day of the "35th Anniversary of the Moncada Barracks Assault" maneuvers began at the FAR's General Jose Maceo Interservice School. There, the participants were able to see the work being carried out in cadet training and the capabilities of this military training center in the fulfillment of combat missions.

The Palma Soriano municipality was visited later. This municipality is outstanding in the area of fortification work, where its efficiency was noted. [video shows planes and helicopters taking off and weapons being fired from land] Regular troops, small Territorial Militia Troops units, and production and defense brigades participated jointly in repelling and defeating a mock enemy.

Upon his arrival in Holguin Province, Raul and those accompanying him, were received by Miguel Cano Blanco, first secretary of the provincial PCC committee, who explained to them the economic and social development of the area and the defense preparedness.

An emotional ceremony was later held at the Urbano Noris agroindustrial complex in Holguin Province.

[Begin recording] [PCC Politburo Member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, identified by caption; video shows Machado speaking to a crowd of people] To conclude, I want to—and I believe this reflects the feeling of all the comrades who participated in this activity—convey to you our congratulations, encouragement, and confidence that this people will not disappoint even once the hopes our revolution, our fatherland, and our party have placed in you, that you will fulfill every time your duties at work and in defense. Long live our Commander in Chief Fidel! [crowd responds: Viva!] Long live our minister, Raul Castro! [crowd responds: Viva!] Long live the PCC! [crowd shouts: Viva!] Fatherland or death! [crowd answers: We will win!] [applause; end recording]

Pilot's Death Reported

FL1306163588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1150 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Excerpts] With a special congratulatory message, Army General Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee and FAR minister, [words indistinct] people of Guantanamo, Santiago de Cuba [words indistinct] termed as outstanding the military maneuvers called "35th Anniversary of the Moncada Barracks Assault". The land of Ignacio Agramonte served as host to a demonstration of a large reinforced tank unit, Territorial Troops Militia units, and production and defense brigades.

[Begin Raul Castro recording] We owe this gigantic power to our people and to the wise leadership of our party headed by our commander in chief, and we will

continue doing things this way. We take the experience from the history of our relatively new Cuban nationality, the mixture of the Iberian and African (?lineage) of which we are proud. That is why we constantly reiterate that what we do is to avoid war. But whether to win or avoid it, we must continue to invest substantial material resources and pour out millions of cubic kilometers of sweat. [end recording]

During the ceremony, Raul presented the Ready for Defense, First Stage Banner and certificate to the light industry, agriculture, communications, and fishing industry ministries.

[Begin Castro recording] I have the bitter duty to inform you and the entire country, through this event, that in the final activity last night, a pilot lost his life— Captain Eliafar Ordonez Gamboa, a first class pilot with more than 800 hours of flight time, a member of the PCC, an internationalist, and a combatant in the sister country of Angola. On behalf of all of us here, all Camaguey residents, all the eastern provinces, and the nation and people, we express our deepest sympathy to his wife and his little boy, his parents, and other relatives. [end recording] [passage omitted]

[Begin Castro recording] The last thing we still have to claim is the 110 square km of our national territory which the U.S. imperialists have illegally occupied for approximately 80 years—the Guantanamo Naval Base, Guantanamo Bay. But one day it will be ours. We will get it through peaceful means. That is the only thing that we still have to claim. This 7-day maneuver of operational strategic scope, from Guantanamo to Camaguey, called "35th Anniversary of the Moncada Barracks Assault" will go into the history of Cuban military demonstrations. It will show what we have already accomplished and the power attained. And this is only the beginning. [passage omitted]

Commentary Views Maneuvers

FL1306191788 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] A revolution's worth can be measured by its capacity to defend itself. We Cubans know this truth well. For the past 30 years, we have invested a large part of our efforts in preparing ourselves to prevent Cuba's enemies from destroying what we have achieved. We have gradually perfected our military doctrine, which today involves the whole population.

The task of defending the Cuban homeland falls mainly to the FAR. However, the Territorial Troops Militia and the defense and production brigades also have a prominent role to play. In the war of all the people, each Cuban has his or her own mission to fulfill.

Military maneuvers have just taken place over the past week in eastern Cuba. They were called "35th Anniversary of the Moncada Barracks Assault Maneuvers." Tens of thousands of fellow Cubans mobilized to demonstrate their combat readiness. We train in war to have peace. We work for peace because we want to develop and grow, to give each citizen improved living conditions, more culture, better education, and increased health and recreation services.

Our firepower, our intelligence, and our courage are the best guarantee in our quest for peace because this dissuades the enemy from attempting any aggression. Our determination to keep the homeland free and sovereign demands that we defend it. The arms are in the hands of the people. As in Giron, the October crisis, and the internationalist missions, we will triumph in our striving for peace. We build this great homeland for the enjoyment of all. We are both workers and soldiers, ready to build and defend a better future.

Bahamas

St Agnes MP Comments on Drug Charges

fl1106154588 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] The House of Assembly has adjourned until next week Wednesday. During the afternoon session of the House yesterday the MP for St Agnes, Mr Kendall Nottage, began his contribution to the ongoing debate on crime, law enforcement, and national security saying that for the past 10 years the opposition Free National Movement has tried unsuccessfully to blame the government for the increase and presence of crime in the country.

Mr Nottage charged that while the accusing finger was being pointed at himself and other government officials, the accusers were laughing going to the bank with proceeds from drug operations. Mr Nottage told the House that he has in his possession documentary evidence to show that from 1981 up to this year there was a number of unknown people who formed a network of persons who appeared to be insignificant but was strategic to drug operations in the Bahamas. He said they continued to go undetected because persons in certain positions in the United States and the Bahamas were offering them legal protection.

Mr Nottage stated that during the course of his presentation, he will show in graphic terms how a group of Americans, Colombians, and Cubans, along with Bahamians in Treasure Key, Green Turtle Key, and (Scotland Key) in Abaco, Cat Island, and New Providence, formed themselves to operate a successful crime ring organization for at least 5 years up to 1988. He said he will show how a Bahamian national was murdered in Cat Island by the crime ring and how they lied their way out of the police [words indistinct]. Mr Nottage disclosed that he would also reveal how the crime ring was protected in the Bahamas by numerous legal maneuvers. He said the group was so bold on one occasion they commandeered a fire

engine to store their drug. The St Agnes MP says that great care was taken to cover up the existence and presence of the crime ring. Mr Nottage said he will outline why it operated so successfully in addition to showing how persons profited from the activity and how assets acquired were used. He said he will also show how the remnants of the crime ring is still in operation today even though most of them were convicted or are under criminal indictment.

The MP for St Agnes informed the House that the principal players of the crime ring are Mr Frank Palmero, Robert Jameson, Dennis Record, Boss Barleto, Jose Arvelo, Steve Russell, Glenn Lowe, and Frank Lowe, and he made the distinction that all of them are white men noting that the perception in the past was that all who participated in drug trafficking were black men. Mr Nottage says that in this criminal ring, the support services were carried out by black men, political generals throughout Abaco, who are opposed to the Progressive Liberal Party.

Mr Nottage claimed that a family network is at the apex of the operation with a broad white Bahamian at the base. He said the ring was also assisted and facilitated by certain identifiable lawyers in the Bahamas. He stated that there is evidence that show that Palmero, Record, Jameson, and Arvelo were indicted in the United States for drug trafficking in September of last year but the crime ring was still operational up to January of this year.

Mr Nottage added that while people were pointing an accusing finger at him, the crime ring got active assistance from Bahamian lawyers after the commission of inquiry report, after the Bahamas Bar Association made a pontifical pronouncement about how lawyers should behave, and after the famous lecture by Mr Jeffrey Johnston.

Mr Nottage further stated that Dennis Record and Jameson were convicted of possession of dangerous drugs and firearms in the Bahamas in August of 1985 but at the trial Record's charge was dropped and Jameson was convicted with the firearms charge. Mr Nottage said the timing of this event with the commission of inquiry report is very important and pivotal because the commission had no impressions on that operation. He said that when he is completed his presentation all will agree that he is a good detective because he could investigate.

Mr Nottage also dealt with recent reports of possible indictments against Bahamian officials. He told the House that when a people had made a national resolve there is nothing stronger. He said they had resolved to follow and sustain the leadership of Lynden O. Pindling. He said they had made up their minds and he said there is nothing stronger than when a mind is made up. He said we must stand united and let American officials know that the government of the Bahamas will not be intimidated by threats of criminal indictments.

Indictments, he lectured, are supposed to be a judicial process and they were never intended by the principles of international law that threats of a judicial process be used to intimidate a national government in pursuit of a political cause.

It was never intended, he continued, by the conventions recognized by the international community that threats of criminal indictments be used as instruments of politics. This method and process is wrong, he said, and should be condemned by all men of courage.

The St Agnes MP told the House that our leaders have their respective families who are living in fear of security because their fathers and husbands are being intimidated with political indictments. This, he said, should cease forthwith and we in the government, he said, will not govern under duress.

Grenada

NDC Withdraws From Committee on OECS Unity

FL1406030588 Bridgetown CANA in English 2039 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] St George's, Grenada, June 13, CANA—The parliamentary opposition National Democratic Congress (NDC) has withdrawn from a committee set up by government to advise on Grenada's participation in the proposed unity initiative with other countries of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), a spokesman said on Monday.

The NDC's general council passed a resolution at a meeting on Sunday, endorsing the pull-out from the committee comprising past and present parliamentarians.

The resolution said the committee was too "narrow and exclusive" and being "too heavily weighted" in favour of the ruling New National Party (NNP). The party also took issue with the absence of representatives from service clubs, youth groups and trade unions.

"The committee has no real representation from a certain political party in Grenada, thus risking the matter of OECS closer union becoming devisive instead of uniting," the NDC said.

"NDC calls on government to deal directly with opposition parties on the question of OECS unity...," it added.

The resolution did not name the party but NDC leader George Brizan identified it as the Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) of former prime minister Sir Eric Gairy.

The small Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement (MBPM) pulled out of the said committee two weeks ago in retaliation at the government's deportation of two Caribbean leftists invited to attend its first convention.

Three of the seven members serving on the committee are members of the ruling party—Health Minister Danny Williams, Minister of State for Fisheries Ben Andrews, and Senator Norris James.

The NDC indicated that it was becoming clear that the government was trying to use the committee to take the place of "a properly constituted, all embracing national forum" on OECS unity.

"...The NDC emphasises that full opportunity must be provided for all relevant national groupings to participate properly in discussions on OECS closer union," it said. The opposition group said OECS unity would only succeed if there is "comprehensive and far-reaching" consultation among the peoples of the sub-region.

Bishop Movement Denies Government Claims

FL1306233588 Bridgetown CANA in English 2237 GMT 12 Jun 88

[Text] St George's, Grenada, June 12, CANA—Grenada's small Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement (MBPM) has brushed aside claims by External Affairs Minister Ben Jones that two West Indian left-wingers denied entry by the government last month were security risks.

Cuban-based Vincentian Don Rojas and trade unionist David Abdullah of Trinidad and Tobago were seeking to attend an MBPM convention.

Jones later went on state-owned "Radio Grenada" and told the nation that government had a responsibility to refuse entry to persons who have a commitment to subversion. He also said that government was not sure whether those who were seeking entry had been in recent contact with Cuba's Fidel Castro and Libyan strongman Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi who Jones claimed had threatened to reverse their losses in Grenada.

The MBPM in a statement dismissed Jones claim as "false" and a futile attempt to justify government's high-handed and arbitrary behavior. It also said that the action taken by Jones government exposed the administration as "a weak, unstable, undemocratic" regime nearing the end of its days in office.

United Labor Party Postpones Convention

FL1306235088 Bridgetown CANA in English 2150 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] St George's, Grenada, June 13, CANA—The opposition Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) of former Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy has for the second time announced a postponement of its first convention for several years. Gairy told CANA that the convention planned for June 26 has been put back for another three months because the party was having difficulty in obtaining a venue.

He said the GULP had written to government seeking the use of either the Queens Park Pavillion or a nearby primary school for the convention but had received no reply. "We even thought about holding it open air on the side of the street or on a park, but the rainy season has set in so we have had to change our mind", he remarked. Sir Eric said that he was hopeful of shortly regaining posession of some of his properties which were confiscated by the 1979-83 leftwing government and would use one of them to hold the GULP convention. He said the GULP was committed to holding the convention before that of the ruling New National Party (NNP) scheduled for December.

Gairy's party had also written to the American-run offshore medical school on the island requesting the use of its lecture hall for the convention but was turned down. The school told Sir Eric it did not want to compromise its non-political stance in allowing GULP use of the hall.

Haiti

Arrival of Ship Carrying Toxic Waste Reported

FL1406022588 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in Creole 1600 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Report from Port-de-Paix correspondent Michel Edouard]

[Excerpts] Peasants and other residents of the Department of the Northwest remain uneasy after an announcement from the general customs director in Port-au-Prince to the Port-de-Paix director to the effect that a ship carrying toxic waste, the ("Makiyi"), is already in Haitian territory. [passage omitted]

There is much talk and agitation in connection with this matter.

As for Mole Saint Nicolas, a person from the area has informed us that no ship has been sighted in that area. They don't know whether or not it might have passed during the night. However, people who have gone swimming in the sea have come out of the water with a blistery rash. The fish no longer taste the same. Some of the fish have a bitter taste. Nevertheless, they themselves have not yet seen any boat.

This matter is giving rise to much talk and they ask people to be on the lookout for the vessel in question, the ("Makiyi"), which is of Cypriot registry. [passage omitted]

Shooting Incident on La Gonave Island

FL1306222588 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1830 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Yesterday evening individuals identified as the group of bandits from Freycinau in Saint-Marc went over to La Gonave Island and fired on both civilians and soldiers. At around 1930 yesterday, armed individuals

fired many rounds at both soldiers and civilians on the wharf at Anse a Galets, on La Gonave Island. No one was hurt, but people were very frightened.

There was to be a soccer match Sunday on La Gonave between La Gonave's team, Aurore, and Saint-Marc's team, Tempete. The game did not take place because the team from Saint-Marc arrived too late. The team had barely landed when another group arrived. This group has been identified as the bandits from the Freycinau area in Saint-Marc.

They destroyed a small boat belonging to the CARE foundation kept at the wharf. When the police at the post near the wharf saw this, they fired into the air to alert people. The group of bandits immediately drew its weapons too. According to our information, they were carrying large-caliber weapons and fired them point-blank; that is to say, they fired them very low.

The police made people hit the ground and alerted the Anse a Galets barracks. By the time the squad from the barracks appeared, the group of individuals had taken to the sea and departed.

We remind listeners that this is not the first incident in which the Freycinau group's presence is mentioned. To this day, no one knows what kind of group this one actually is or who organized it.

There are reports to the effect that the group does not operate only in Freycinau. It is said to operate all over the Artibonite area and that it participated in many massacres and acts of banditry in the Artibonite against church people and people involved in the organization of the November 1987 elections.

Here are some dates:

For example, on 23 August 1987 they opened fire during a rally that was being held in Pont Sonde to express solidarity with the peasants of Jean-Rabel, who had been massacred. One person was wounded. They then took down the license plate numbers of the vehicles at the rally and laid an ambush in Freycinau very near the little police post for all the people returning from the ceremony. On that occasion, they almost killed four priests and other churchmen and laymen. They burned one vehicle and smashed the windows of the others, and several people were hit by rocks. Later, Colonel Gambetta Hyppolite issued his own report on these incidents and spoke of an investigation, but that investigation never took place.

On 22 November 1987, in Saint-Marc, at approximately 2300, a group individuals dressed all in black with hoods over their heads and armed with machetes, ice picks, and guns tried to set fire to the presbytery in Saint-Marc. The vigilance brigade on guard surprised them and they ran off in the direction of the Saint-Marc barracks. One of them was recognized as the person who had been asking a series of strange questions earlier in the day on the evening the priests were attacked in Freycinau.

On 27 November 1987, again in Freycinau, a group of armed men set up a barricade across National Highway No 1, some 150 meters from the Freycinau police post. They attacked several journalists and other people. They smashed the cameras of foreign journalists who were going to cover the 29 November elections. The Army did not intervene.

On 28 November 1987, once again in Freycinau, they attacked a team from French television's channel 5, destroying all the French crew's equipment. On that same day, at that same roadblock, several vehicles were set on fire, among them a truck carrying the rest of the ballots for northern Haiti.

On 20 May 1988, on the occasion of the installation of a new customs director in Saint-Marc, the rumor was put out that the port was being closed. Individuals armed with cubs, etc., who were identified as members of this same group of bandits and reportedly rooted [as heard] in the public administration, held demonstrations against the installation of the customs director. One person suffered head wounds. It was the Army that came and made the delegation that was to install the new customs director return home. This was also the first demonstration that the Army had allowed to take place since Mr Manigat came to power.

Jamaica

WPJ Refutes USSR Citizen Defection Allegations

FL1106163088 Bridgetown CANA in English 2141 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, June 10, CANA—The Soviet citizen who Jamaica this week claimed had defected to the island late last year with his Jamaican wife was neither an intelligence agent nor an employee of the Russian Embassy here, according to Marxist Workers' Party of Jamaica (WPJ) general secretary, Dr Trevor Munroe.

Munroe also disclosed that the couple had explained to him during a visit to Jamaica in December that they had decided not to return to the Soviet Union because of the bureaucratic delays the husband, Vyacheslav Fyodorov, had encountered in getting a 10-day exit permit and the indignites to which the process had subjected them.

The national security minister, Errol Anderson, on Tuesday night told Parliament about the defection of the intelligence officer, and said it was not announced earlier because of security reasons. Anderson did not give

names, but said the Soviet citizen was married to a member of the WPJ, who had studied in the Soviet Union. The Soviet Embassy at the time said it had no knowledge of the incident.

Munroe, in a letter to the GLEANER newspaper [words indistinct] Anderson's statement, he could only have referred to former WPJ member, Margaret Webley, and her husband. He explained that Webley studied Russian language in Moscow between 1979 and 1982, then worked in Prague as a translator at the WORLD MARXIST REVIEW until 1985. She returned to Jamaica in 1986 and worked as a secretary at the state-owned petroleum corporation of Jamaica. However, unable to use her professional qualification, she applied to live in the Soviet Union and returned there in 1987 where she met Vyacheslav who taught Nordic languages at Moscow State University. They were married in March last year and later decided to visit Jamaica.

According to Munroe, the process of Fyodorov getting the necessary exit visa was extraordinarily drawn out and bureaucratic, and a member of the WPJ had in Moscow last August asked for an expedition of the matter. Munroe said that he himself had also written to the Soviet authorities last year urging that they expedite the permit to allow Fyodorov to visit Jamaica in time for his father-in-law's 60th birthday in November.

The couple arrived in Jamaica on December 5, and Munroe said they visited him on December 11 to indicate their desire not to return to the Soviet Union. They reason they gave was the extraordinarily bureaucratic delays they experienced in getting the exit permit and the indignities to which the process subjected them, Munroe said. He said no mention was made of racism against the black Jamaican wife or of defection.

The GLEANER newspaper had suggested that racism was a factor, and that Fyodorov had given local security officials information of WPJ plans here and Soviet intentions for the Caribbean.

Munroe described the claim as the regular communist bogey and cooked-up mystery. Munroe said no pressure was put on the couple to return to the Soviet Union, the same way as no pressure was put on Mrs Fyodorov when she decided to return to the Soviet Union.

Costa Rica

Arias Says Nicaragua 'Intransigent' in Talks

PA1406040488 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] While expressing hope that the cease-fire talks between the Nicaraguan Resistance and the Sandinist government will be resumed, President Oscar Arias Sanchez accused the Sandinist regime of being intransigent.

The president said there is much intransigence on the part of the Managua government, adding that if there is no willingness, flexibility, and greater tolerance, it will be very difficult to continue advancing toward peace. Arias Sanchez said he must speak with Farid Ayales, Costa Rican ambassador to Nicaragua, to learn the details of what occurred in the last negotiations between the rebels and the Sandinists.

President Arias Sanchez believes the presidents of the five Central American countries should again get involved in the peace process because there is evidently an impasse. The president thinks that no progress has been achieved in the many meetings between the rebels and the Managua government. According to Arias Sanchez, new opinions must be introduced to break the impasse. He added that at the same time that efforts are being made to achieve a cease-fire, there must also be efforts to achieve an advance in democratization, something that has not been achieved. Stating that there has been no real progress in democratization, the president said that the little that has been achieved in democracy and freedom has been the result of extensive debate. Nevertheless, he said this has involved minimum concessions so the entire world will keep alive a flame of hope that the Managua government is really willing to continue advancing toward democratization and the reestablishment of greater freedoms. Arias Sanchez reiterated that he continues to think that little has been achieved and that this is not enough because the level of freedom that prevails in Nicaragua is still too limited and the pluralistic society that we all desire has yet to be established.

President Arias stressed that real separation of power is essential to achieving democracy. There must be a clear separation between the government and the party, between the government and the army, and among all three; otherwise, there is no real democracy. All of these things are necessary to achieve peace and democracy. Therefore, he said, we cannot be satisfied with what has happened so far in Nicaragua.

Although he said that, along with Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo, he will work to find a way to promote peace, President Oscar Arias did not specify actions to advance the peace process. However, the president was clear in stating that something concrete must be done to achieve a permanent cease-fire in Nicaragua. Arias Sanchez did not disclose whether he will promote a meeting of regional presidents or hold talks with the other presidents. However, he did say that something will have to be done soon.

El Salvador

Defense Minister on Possibility of Coup

PA1406005188 San Salvador Canal Seis Television in Spanish 0030 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Report on interview with Defense Minister General Eugenio Vides Casanova by Suzette Ramirez; date and place not given—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Regarding a coup d'etat, General Vides said there is always a possibility, but it is not appropriate because progress is being made in the democratization of the country.

[Vides] "I believe a coup d'etat is the result of many factors that could occur at a given time. I believe the circumstances for a coup do not exist in our country, but these circumstances could occur sooner or later. However, I want to tell you that we, the members of the High Command, will try our utmost to make the necessary changes, even within [the Armed Forces], to prevent a coup d'etat.

"Coups sometimes occur because there has been no change in the higher ranks, which results in obstacles. We are willing to start making the necessary changes, even if it means that we ourselves have to preserve the democratic process and give the new Armed Forces generations the opportunity to develop.

"In sum, I want to tell you there is always a chance of a coup d'etat. However, we have allowed the country to fight for democracy, human rights, and an end to the war. As you can see, there has not been a coup in more than 6 months [as heard]. We will continue our efforts to prevent [a coup from occurring]."

Referring to the FMLN statements that the Armed Forces leadership will become divided as a result of the ambitions for power within it, Gen Vides said the Armed Forces have been able to maintain their unity despite the different positions within it. Asked about how long he thinks the armed struggle will continue, Vides said it is very difficult to predict this. Nevertheless, he said, a lot of progress has been made in this regard. He denied reports that a low-intensity conflict is being waged in El Salvador.

[Vides] "I believe it is not easy to reach a quick understanding because of the diversity of opinions among the terrorists, the Armed Forces, the democratic forces, the Democratic Merger, and others. However, I can assure you that the Armed Forces, as well as the country, have very high morale and a fighting spirit. The important thing is to have the ability to struggle as long as necessary, although we are always making the maximum effort to reduce the time necessary to win this war.

"One thing that has somewhat delayed the achievement of military objectives is, in fact, our support of the democratic process. Proof of our tremendous effort in this regard are the six totally free elections that have

taken place in the 6 years of war. We are aware that this effort will pay dividends in the future, even if it has meant that peace will be achieved 1 or 2 years later than it could have been without holding elections. It is those elections, with the support of the people, that formed the basis for building peace in our country.

"I feel it is difficult to speak about deadlines because the deadlines have also been affected by one earthquake and three droughts. In addition, we might soon have a massive return of deported Salvadorans from the United States because of the Simpson-Rodino law. Many factors can change the situation, for better or worse. What you may be sure of is that there is not the remotest possibility of the subversion succeeding in our country. You have seen for yourself that the rebels have not been able to hold on to any of the positions they claim to have under control. If they really had any strength, they would at least remain in those places and fight there for a while, at least to show that they have the ability to do so.

"Setting ambushes, planting mines that kill innocent people, and stopping traffic by threatening owners and drivers of vehicles, without the support of the people, cannot be defined as having the ability to fight a war. That is the reason why they are trying so hard to reach the masses and are calling for urban insurrection. However, here again we have taken adequate measures to prevent this from happening. So, as far as deadlines are concerned, all we can say is that we are going to make every possible effort to do it [not further identified] in a minimum amount of time. Meanwhile, we will continue to create high morale in our Armed Forces in order to continue fighting for as long as necessary." [passage omitted]

"I believe we have progressed most in the political area, because the Armed Forces, by removing itself from politics, is no longer biased toward the government party. Instead, it is providing guarantees to all political parties. Consequently, we have received the support of the rank and file of all those political parties, which do not want an Armed Forces that helps one side or the other, but one that allows each party to obtain the portion of power to which it is entitled by virtue of the proportion of support it receives from the people.

"Therefore, I believe we have to measure the political aspect from the viewpoint of how our relations have improved with the church, internationally, and with the various political entities in our country, and particularly how the Armed Forces have behaved with regard to democracy and human rights.

"I trust that this war will not be won only militarily. While they are striving to create conditions that are unfavorable to the people, we have tried to improve the areas through which we pass by means of the United To Rebuild plan. In those areas we are improving schools and health centers; in other words, we are rebuilding all that they have destroyed along their path. The people can judge the difference in attitude between an Armed Forces that are at their service and terrorists that are only destroying the entire economic infrastructure."

In addition, Gen Vides Casanova said that criticism of the institution for failing to enforce order in violent demonstrations is justified, but that it is necessary to choose the right moment to act.

[Vides] [Passage omitted] "In political matters, it is not enough to be right; one has to be right at the right time. I believe that the people themselves are getting tired of these demonstrations that Mr Villalobos claims are increasingly successful. You have seen that the people no longer want these demonstrations that violate the human rights of Salvadorans by setting fire to vehicles and gas stations and destroying businesses, etc. The people are tired of this and they are demanding that the Armed Forces act with more force. We are going to act in accordance with the law with all due force at the proper time. We believe that at times it is necessary to calmly analyze the situation and decide whether or not to take forceful action. We believe that to date, this has not been necessary. You have seen that by acting calmly, the Armed Forces have been able to defuse a number of dangerous situations. I can tell you that the Armed Forces are increasingly strong. We are capable of facing any kind of intensified urban terrorism, and they should not mistake our serenity for weakness. [passage omitted]"

PDC Presidential Candidates Reportedly Withdraw

PA1306141888 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Christian Democratic Party [PDC] sources have reported that recent meetings have attained results in terms of developing party unity. According to the sources, [Fidel] Chavez Mena and [Julio Adolfo] Rey Prendes have reached an agreement to withdraw their candidacies [for the PDC presidential nomination] and to hold consultations regarding the election of a unity candidate; however, Rey Prendes has denied that he withdrew his candidacy and has said that he is still the official candidate. Nevertheless, official sources were consulted [6-second break in reception].

Church To Seek Consensus on Ending Fighting

PA1306133588 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] The Salvadoran church will begin a debate with the country's social sectors and seek basic points for a national consensus to end the armed conflict that has prevailed in the country for more than 8 years.

Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, announced during the Sunday homily that the church will begin a social dialogue with Salvadorans, which mainly seeks the most important factors to end

[25-second break in reception] conclusions of the debate, which might end in August 1988, will be presented to the government, Armed Forces, political parties, and the FMLN-FDR fronts.

Guatemala

Col Lima Fired for Coup Actions, Sent to Peru

PA1406034788 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 12 Jun 88 p 6

[Excerpts] Colonel Byron Disrael Lima, who was the commander of the Chiquimula Military Zone and was fired for his participation in the attempted coup d'etat on 11 May 1988, has been sent to Peru as military attache.

He is replacing Colonel Jorge Juan Arturo Rivera in Lima. It has not been decided what post Rivera will be given. [passage omitted]

According to the investigation conducted by a military judge, Colonel Gustavo Adolfo Cifuentes, second in command of the Jutiapa Military Base who was implicated in the coup d'etat, declared that he knew that the new defense minister after the coup d'etat would be Colonel Byron Disrael Lima, who is now the military attache to Peru.

Nicaragua

RN Communique on Failure of Negotiations

PA1306194888 San Jose Radio Impccto in Spanish 1855 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Report by Alejandro Acevedo]

[Text] This is an exclusive for San Jose Radio Impacto. Today members of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] Directorate will meet with Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo and later with acting Salvadoran President Rodolfo Castillo Claramount. On Wednesday, they will be in Guatemala to meet with President Vinicio Cerezo. The RN began this information tour through Central America last Friday, when it met for 3 hours with Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez.

By the way, the RN Directorate has issued the following communique:

In view of the disinformation campaign unleashed by the Sandinist regime for the purpose of distorting the real reasons why an agreement for a definitive cease-fire has not been achieved and of dividing the Resistance, the RN Directorate hereby announces the following:

1. The negotiations failed due to the government's refusal to guarantee the enforcement of the democratic reforms included in the RN's proposal.

2. We reiterate the solid unity of the RN, and we reject the slander against members of the Directorate.

3. We reiterate our willingness to find political solutions to the conflict Nicaragua is experiencing and assert that our struggle will not end until Nicaragua is free and democratic.

[signed] Aristides Sanchez, Alfredo Cesar, Azucena Ferrey, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, and Adolfo Calero

Bermudez on Talks

PA1306203688 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1300 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Interview with Commander Enrique Bermudez, military chief of the Nicaraguan Resistance, by unidentified reporters "shortly before leaving" Managua at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport—recorded]

[Text] [Bermudez] We feel that the Sandinist government has made a serious mistake in failing to reach an agreement on our proposals. Our proposals to reach a definitive cease-fire were serious. They contained well-defined terms and very clear demands. The demands that we are making are simple: freedom of expression, democracy, and general amnesty. These are the same points that we have requested for many years. They are not unrealistic.

[Reporter] What did they say regarding amnesty?

[Bermudez] In their proposal they offered an amensty, based on a timetable, which was very limited. It involved a very small number of prisoners. We are seeking national reconciliation. To reach national reconciliation it is basic that the first step be a general and total amnesty so that the people can have trust.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] at the last moment. Who has made new proposals?

[Bermudez] We have not made any proposal. We submitted our proposal at the last round of talks we had in Managua. What we did was to introduce a timetable of specific dates for the compliance with certain demands that we introduced before.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] to keep the RN as [words indistinct] Sapoa?

[Bermudez] We have not said that the RN is a political party. The RN would participate in the national dialogue, but as an organization that has made an agreement with the Sandinist government.

[Question indistinct]

[Bermudez] That is caused by the pluralist nature of our organization. It has elements from the diverse political currents that are in exile. In order for all of them to participate, the government agreed to have a delegation from each political current in the Directorate.

[Question indistinct]

[Bermudez] Well, General Humberto Ortega used a very harsh tone this afternoon in the last minutes of the negotiations. We do not think harsh tones contribute to reaching [words indistinct]. Well, he said that we must be aware that the war will be total. It involves all of us, not just the peasants who are fighting, but all of us. That includes them and us. That is practically an invitation to... [changes thought] I and the other members of the Directorate are involved in the armed struggle and anything can happen to us.

Defense Ministry Reports Clashes With Contras

PA1106004788 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] This afternoon the Defense Ministry reported that on 7 June, mercenary forces loyal to former Somozist guardsman Enrique Bermudez, continuing their terrorist activities, kidnapped six civilians in La Chinela, northeast of La Gateada, in Region No 5.

The Defense Ministry also reported that on 7 June, EPS troops repelled a contra attack in the Subasa hill area, southeast of Chontales, leaving one contra dead and recovering two AK rifles and two knapsacks.

8 June Attacks

PA1206160888 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jun 88

[Text] Four mercenaries were killed and one AK rifle was recovered as a result of recent attacks perpetrated by contra bands headed by Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez Varela, the Defense Ministry has reported in a communique.

The communique added that those attacks, which violate the agreements on the suspension of offensive actions, took place in (Quebrada Espavel), in the South Atlantic region, and (Cano de Agua), southeast of (Guatachamba), Matagalpa Department.

The communique states that the contras carried out terrorist actions against the civilian population and economic objectives by kidnapping 77 civilians in the areas known as Piedra Fina, Rio San Juan Department; (Cerro Onoya), Chontales Department; and (Aguauas), north of La Pinuela, Chontales Department.

All these actions were carried out on 8 June.

9-12 June Actions

PA1406044088 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2251 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Bulletin issued by the Public and Foreign Relations Directorate of the Defense Ministry in Managua on 13 June]

[Text] Armed actions have been taken in response to attacks on our troops by counterrevolutionaries.

1. On 10 June, counterrevolutionaries attacked our troops at Rio Almacen, south of Nueva Guinea, in the Southern Atlantic Autonomous Region. Two mercenaries were killed and our troops seized an AK rifle and a knapsack.

2. These are the terrorist actions perpetrated by the mercenary forces loyal to former Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez against both the civilian population and economic targets.

a. On 9 June, a group of mercenaries kidnapped a civilian at La Vigia, southwest of Quilali, Nueva Segovia Department.

b. On 10 June, mercenaries kidnapped a civilian at [name indistinct], southeast of Presillitas, Chontales Department.

c. On 11 June, they kidnapped three civilians at San Jose, southeast of Villa Revolucion, Chontales Department.

d. On 12 June, mercenaries, moving around the Cano Blanco area southeast of Rancho Grande, Matagalpa Department, kidnapped 10 civilians.

In addition, on 10 June a rebel laid down his weapon at Quilali, Nueva Segovia Department, and another rebel laid down his arms at Kubali, west of Puerto Viejo, Matagalpa Department.

Managua, 13 June 1988

[Signed] Public and Foreign Relations Directorate

Ministry of Defense

Official at UN Criticizes U.S. Actions

PA1106171088 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jun 88

[Text] Nicaraguan Vice Foreign Minister Javier Chamorro Mora has said at the United Nations that Ronald Reagan's administration will soon be part of the U.S. dark history.

In a speech at the UN Conference on Disarmament, Chamorro Mora said the peace negotiations between the Sandinist government and the contras are facing serious problems due to the intransigence of the mercenary leaders backed by the Reagan administration, which continues to support the use of force and war.

Chamorro Mora called upon the Reagan administration to permit the continuation of his government's negotiations with the contra leaders. He recalled that the Central American peace agreements represent a commitment for all the parties involved.

Chamorro Mora stressed that Nicaragua is the only country that has fully complied with the Esquipulas II agreement, although the strong divisions within the

contras and the pressures from the Reagan administration pose a challenge for those who want a peaceful resolution of the Nicaraguan conflict.

Panama

Delgado: FDP Ready To Repel U.S. 'Intervention'

PA1306205988 Paris AFP in Spanish 2026 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Panama City, 13 Jun (AFP)—Today Major Daniel Delgado, director of the Treaty Affairs Department and a member of the Strategic Military Council (CEM), said in this capital that the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] are prepared to "repel a military intervention" with the people's support.

Referring to a possible U.S. military intervention in Panama, Delgado said: "This would have to be done with the support of the rest of the Panamanian people, because it is actually the people who will repel any armed aggression."

In an interview with the biweekly BAYANO, Delgado said that the FDP is committed to "the defense of the progress that the nation has made, particularly with regard to adherence to the Torrijos-Carter Treaties" signed with the United States in 1977.

According to Delgado, the CEM, which was created on 15 May, is a "novelty" in the Latin American military structure. He said that had it existed in Argentina, "it would have changed the course of events" in the war with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands.

"We have taken an oath to ensure that we have a completely free and sovereign country, and we will honor that oath," Delgado said. He added that the military should contribute to development programs and to the resolution of the crisis, "but in a generalized way." [passage omitted]

Official Says Southern Command 'Illegal'

PA1306185588 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1645 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Dr Nils Castro has said that the Southern Command's existence in Panama is illegal. In a lengthy article entitled "The Panamanian Defense of a Panamanian Canal: An Armed Forces for National Liberation and Development," Dr Nils Castro, general coordinator of the state's National Information System, makes a fitting analysis of the U.S. Army presence in Panama.

In his article, Dr Castro points out that the U.S. military structure in Panama goes way beyond what is necessary to guarantee canal security. He adds that although the Torrijos-Carter Treaties authorize the United States to station sufficient forces to ensure such protection and defense here, that country has actually installed a double structure of force along the waterway that is not geared for defense.

Dr Castro states that this duplicity includes the 193d Brigade of the U.S. Southern Army, whose presence is contingent upon what is authorized in the treaties. Dr Castro points out that its size and the quantity of its arms go well beyond requirements to fulfill the purposes agreed upon.

The National Information System general coordinator also questions the Southern Command's presence in Panama. He claims that it is completely illegal. Castro states: It was not specified in such agreements, and it has not been authorized by the territorial sovereign either.

The Southern Command is conceived and equipped to serve as a control and intervention force in all Latin American and Caribbean countries, and its presence in Panamanian territory has been contested by the Legislative Assembly and the Republic's government even before the main international forums, Dr Castro pointed out.

In his article, the Panamanian politician states that we have a different idea of what the fate of the Panamanian Armed Forces should be, and, naturally, our concept of canal protection and defense is also different.

Columnist Supports Break in Relations With U.S.

PA1306162388 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 13 Jun 88 p 4

[From the "Political Arena" column by Baltazar Renan Aizpurua: "Perfect the Break"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The current White House administration will cease to exist on 20 January 1989, when Mr Ronald Reagan will gather his belongings—spurs, astrology charts, etc.—and go to hell. The Reagan administration does not want, in one of its last arrogant imperialist gestures, to recognize Manuel Solis Palma's constitutional government. Quite the contrary, the Reagan administration has told the U.S. people and the world that Washington considers Eric A. Delvalle to be the Panamanian people's president. [passage omitted]

President Reagan is a hopeless case. He has now come up with one of his typically stupid ideas and has said that the Panamanians who support President Solis Palma and General Noriega cannot obtain visas to enter the United States. According to Reagan and his advisers, this will cause terror and panic among the Panamanians, because they believe that the territory beyond the Rio Grande represents the promised land for us. We will surely be unable to sleep or be at peace until the order is revoked and we are all able to run over to "AIDS land."

However, every measure should have a countermeasure. I propose that those Panamanians who wish to abandon their homeland and travel to the United States should be immediately accommodated. They should be required to sign a form giving up their Panamanian citizenship at their point of departure from national territory. We should not worry if they declare themselves stateless

people because they would be the smallest minority possible, and we will always have hard-working people willing to make our sacred land produce and to take up weapons to defend it.

I also propose that the national government follow through with the break in diplomatic relations and let free and sovereign nations know that we are a state whose rights are respected. We can no longer tolerate the fact that [U.S. Ambassador] Arthur Davis, John Maisto [U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission], and the CIA are meddling in our internal affairs. It is time to tell the world that Panama does not accept colonial governors or puppets; that our territory is not for sale and cannot be alienated by a foreign power; that we zealously defend the principle of the nation's self-determination; and that we will let no one order us around. We must ask a friendly country—we do have friends—to handle Panama's affairs in the United States. Later on, when decency and respect for Panama prevails in Washington, we can begin the talks or negotiations to eliminate the causes of this conflict.

U.S. Ban on Noriega Supporters Criticized

PA1306183988 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 13 Jun 88 p 4

[Editorial: "The White House Is Painted Black"; all quotation marks as published]

[Text] The latest, although perhaps not the last, show of Panamanian phobia that the current U.S. Administration has given the world has taken the form of a unilateral and single-handed order. On Friday, Reagan issued this order not subject to subsequent reconsideration.

With all the characteristics of a "ukase" of the old Russian tsars, the White House resident has issued a decree ordering that Panamanians who carry out actions in support of General Manuel Antonio Noriega and President Manuel Solis Palma are not to be allowed into the United States." This measure is to enter into effect immediately, and, according to this unbelievable order, it will remain in effect "until democracy is reestablished in Panama."

In the face of such audacity, which none of Mr Reagan's predecessors in the lofty place that he is now abusing implemented or even thought of, all sorts of negative commentaries are called for. This is so, not because of how much it affects or fails to affect Panamanians, but rather because of the black stain which that odd vehicle of Mr Reagan's pride casts on Washington's capitol. Out of the many opposing arguments that may be used in this case, we are are going to limit ourselves to just a few.

First, and regardless of what the panegyrists of this action may say to the contrary, we highly question the legitimacy that can be given to an "order" as the legal or constitutional form of expression for the President of the United States. As far as we know, measures of greater, lesser, or similar impact than the one taken by Mr Reagan must be taken only after consultation with the legislative bodies. Previous actions by Reagan illustrate the little attention he pays to the recommendations that the House of Representatives and the Senate make to him. This attitude is precisely what led to the Irangate scandal, what keeps very important figures of his administration on the tightrope, and what could produce—the moment anyone tells the whole truth—the sudden collapse of any of the President's plans or of Mr Reagan himself.

Seen from another angle, how can Washington want the world to continue regarding the United States as the unbeatable bastion of liberty—that is higher than the statue that was erected in its honor—if it denies a people the right to participate as citizens in a political debate or even an ideological debate, if that were the case...? The astrology fan may very well decide one day to issue another "order" depriving those working for the victory of candidate Dukakis of their residency rights or stripping them of their citizenship since they oppose Mr Bush's victory. To Reagan, Bush represents the hope of democratic continuation, as he views it.

Other considerations can be made regarding Mr Reagan's "order." We will leave them for tomorrow when that gentleman finishes painting the White House black."

Journalists Urge Entry Ban on U.S. Newsmen

PA1306154488 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 13 Jun 88 pp 1, 19

[Text] Panama must ban entry to the national territory of any U.S. newsmen and strictly apply the laws that prohibit foreign correspondents from exercising their profession in the country.

This view was expressed yesterday by members of the Panamanian Journalists Union in response to the constant disinformation campaigns by U.S. correspondents, who operate from Panama and who openly act, in many cases, as instigators and spokesmen of the most barefaced lies against our country.

The Government and Justice Ministry, through the National Directorate of Social Communications Media, has the power to refuse to issue a permit that allows non-Panamanian journalists to practice their profession in Panama.

The labor laws that protect the Panamanian worker prohibit foreigners from working in Panama unless they meet the legal qualifications established by the Labor Ministry. Business managers may not allow foreigners to hold more than 10 percent of the jobs in their work force. In the case of the newsmen, the National Directorate of Social Communications Media of the Government and Justice Ministry has not been demanding strict enforcement of the existing regulations, which stipulate that any journalist who comes to work in the country must register and request a permit from that office to exercise his profession.

The Panamanian Journalists Union will go before Government and Justice Minister Rodolfo Chiari De Leon to ensure fulfillment of this requirement, especially in the case of the U.S. press correspondents who most often send abroad distorted reports of our national reality.

'Rejection' of Solis-Named PCC Member Decried

PA1006173388 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 10 Jun 88 p 4

["Vox Populi" column by Luis Restrepo: "Another Brutal Aggression"]

[Text] Continuing his brutal aggression against Panama and its people, the U.S. President, defying world condemnation of his inhuman actions in violation of the Panama Canal treaties, has ordered "the rejection of" a member of the Panama Canal Commission [PCC] Board recently appointed by the constitutional Panamanian President Manuel Solis Palma.

By virtue of agreements between the two nations, the Panama Canal Commission Board must meet next July. Panamanian members will certainly seize the opportunity to denounce treaty violations and arbitrary actions by William Gianelli, Michael Rhode, and Dennis McAuliffe against the interests of Panama and its people in open violation of the 7 September 1977 agreements.

Among the first measures taken by the Solis Palma administration was the replacement of Carlos Velarde as a Panamanian member of the Panama Canal Commission Board by Arnulfo G. Suarez, a young nationalist Panamanian professional who is strongly committed to the decolonization, sovereignty, and independence process of the fatherland of Justo Arosemena and Guillermo Andreve.

This columnist learned from an absolutely reliable source that the evil trinity of Gianelli, Rhode, and McAuliffe decided to disregard the action taken by the constitutional president of Panama and continue to recognize Carlos Velarde, leaving Suarez out.

While it is true that the appointment of Suarez has not yet been confirmed by the United States, it has been traditional for the individuals nominated by either side to participate in meetings, sit side by side with other directors, and have the right to vote.

Moreover, the Panamanian Government is fully empowered to remove any Panamanian member of the board, and in this case this right was exercised by President Solis Palma.

We Panamanians cannot under any circumstances accept such disrespect from the U.S. Government through the evil trio of Gianelli, Rhode, and McAuliffe. The time has come to take very strong action and give those three disrespectful and arrogant gringos what they deserve. The time has come to ensure compliance with the Panama Canal treaties. The time has come to implement an intelligent and dynamic strategy to denounce, from now on, these brutal violations of the Panama Canal treaties by the United States.

Henceforth, those heading these meetings must make it clear that Arnulfo G. Suarez will attend the next meeting of the Panama Canal Commission Board and that the evil trio would be usurping his duties if they try to prevent him from being there.

This columnist will closely monitor these significant events and actions of President Solis Palma to prevent another brutal violation of the 1977 Panama Canal treaties.

Planning Minister on Firings, Wage Reductions

PA1406020288 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2325 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Interview with Planning and Economic Policy Minister Gustavo Gonzalez by unidentified reporter "today"; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Gonzalez] The Panamanian economy continues to suffer from the various effects of the sanctions, which prevent the normal development of our foreign trade. To some extent, they also hinder the normal development of investments. In the fiscal sector they have also had the effects that the community is well aware of because of the difficulties they have caused.

In the private sector one notices a resurgence of some activities, such as the resumption of projects in some sectors, especially in construction. Industry and other activities that produce goods have some new plans under study, but until banking and other sources of finance return to normal they are just living from the income that those activities produce at this time and very few jobs are being created.

[Reporter] There has been much talk about the government's economic situation. What chance is there of a reduction in the number of government employees or of their salaries?

[Gonzalez] Well, the government's economic situation is also affected by those conditions that reduce revenues and that continue to constrict the budget. At this time, the government has a system by which it can handle its expenses based on how much revenue is received. As for the dismissal of government employees, I think we must repeat and reiterate what the president and I have said. This process that constricts the public sector prevents us from continuing to spend at the previous levels because, as is natural, revenues have decreased and by law we are obliged to adjust to that situation. However, in no way would it be responsible for us to say that this must lead to mass firings of government employees, because just as the state is obligated to maintain a balanced budget, it is also obligated to protect jobs. In an economy in which

the private sector is unable to provide new job opportunities, the state is not going to take the position of dismissing and throwing into the street huge numbers of government employees.

I also reiterate that we are examining personnel expenses to see how we can reduce personnel costs. There is the problem of sinecures and we are looking for a way to eliminate them and some specific examples are already publicly known. There is also the problem of government employees who have two jobs in two government offices. This is not only unfair but they cannot do both jobs. We are trying to eliminate this. There are other personnel expenses such as overtime, which is a huge sum, and other types of payments that are being analyzed. Some offices are trying to completely eliminate overtime with the employees' cooperation. All kinds of alternatives are being sought to reduce personnel expenses. In no way are we proposing mass dismissals that would affect the jobs of Panama's government employees.

[Reporter] What is the situation of retirees who still work in the government?

[Gonzalez] That is also being studied. If a person is getting a pension and has a government job, this is taking a job away from someone else. If it is a small pension, I do not think the person should be afraid, but there are many who get large pensions and hold government jobs. Those cases must be reviewed and an appropriate decision must be made.

[Reporter] Does this mean that, in the future, government employees' salaries will be based on the revenue obtained by the Treasury?

[Gonzalez] That has always been so. Treasury revenues determine the amount of expenditures, which includes salary expenditures. For some time we have been trying to update the provisions that serve as a guide for establishing government salaries. There are studies and proposals that we are analyzing for possible implementation.

[Reporter] How will the budget be balanced this year?

[Gonzalez] By reducing expenses as much as possible and increasing revenue as much as possible.

PRD's Escobar Warns Against Mass Firings

PA1206000288 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2230 GMT 11 Jun 88

[Text] Panama City, 11 Jun (DPA)—The progovernment Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), through its President Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, warned President Manuel Solis Palma that it will not allow an unjustified and mass firing of government employees.

The PRD leader said that "in principle, the party will maintain a position of criticism and opposition to all massive and spontaneous firings, because such actions are harmful to the interests of government employees."

Escobar made these statements in light of the recent firing of Finance Ministry employees and the government's announcement that it plans to fire 28,000 of the 130,000 current government employees. Most government employees are PRD members.

The PRD president believes that "Panama's economic crisis will not be resolved by trimming the government payroll." Escobar Bethancourt added that by firing government workers, the government is taking the easy way out, which was the solution presented in the past by the representatives of the IMF and the World Bank.

Escobar Bethancourt told DPA that he "recommends that the Panamanian president adopt more dynamic measures to confront the crisis." Escobar also charged that "they [the Panamanian Government] are unwilling to create a mechanism that would prevent huge tax evasions on the part of Panamanian businessmen."

'Forceful' Action Threatened

PA1406010588 Paris AFP in Spanish 0006 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] Panama City, 13 Jun (AFP)—Today the National Federation of Associations of Public Employees (FENASEP), which is composed of approximately 120,000 workers, warned that it will take "forceful measures" if the government eliminates 28,000 state office jobs to try to combat the economic crisis.

FENASEP spokesman Maximo Gomez said that "just as the federation backed the government" with regard to the opposition political and business groups, "we will confront the government if it tries to betray us with a dismissal measure affecting the public sector."

The leader said that the Planning Ministry proposed the elimination of 28,000 jobs from the state payroll and the creation of a salary scale that would reflect a 5-percent salary cut for those officials who earn between $300 and $500 [time period not specified]; 10 percent for those who earn between $500 and $700; and 15 percent for those who earn more than $700.

Such announcements caused panic among workers this weekend.

FENASEP had reported the plan to reduce the number of public jobs in December, causing widespread fear among public servants. The organization noted that it was a measure designed to ease the economic and fiscal crisis.

FENASEP gave President Manuel Solis Palma 48 hours to hold a dialogue with public employee leaders, who threatened "to take forceful measures"—which were not specified—if the government insists on implementing this plan.

50 Percent of Businesses May Close by December

PA1406012688 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2350 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Interview with Alfredo Maduro, member of the board of directors of the Panamanian Chamber of Commerce and Industries, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Maduro] According to a poll conducted by the Chamber of Commerce and Industries last month, most Panamanian companies are in a critical economic condition. The most serious result noted in this poll is that over 50 percent of the companies polled believe that they cannot continue to operate beyond December 1988. This means that in 1989, Panama's economy will be operating at less than 40 or 30 percent of the norm if the political and economic situation remains unchanged. That is what we are seeing now.

At present, there has been a small respite, due partially to the fact that banks opened some 2 or 3 weeks ago, classes have started, and stores and other commercial establishments in Panama are operating at a somewhat better rate than before, evident in increased sales. However, as we can see, this is only a brief respite from the crisis that will probably bring economic catastrophe in 1989.

[Reporter] Mr Maduro, how have companies managed to survive thus far and to minimize the effects of the political and economic situation?

[Maduro] I believe that the survival of most companies thus far is due, above all, to the understanding of their employees and the effort and creativity shown by Panamanian businessesmen in their attempts to carry out minimal operations while maintaining the levels of sales necessary to survive.

[Reporter] Mr Maduro, if the situation that you describe continues and if over 50 percent of the companies close because of the country's social situation, how many people, how many Panamanian families could be directly affected by this?

[Maduro] It is somewhat difficult to arrive at a figure at this time, because workers who have lost their jobs or who have been placed on forced leave are returning to the country's interior. However, in any case, it is estimated that over 250,000 people will lose their jobs within a very short time if the present political and economic situation continues.

PRD Spokesman Says Party Leadership To Change

PA1006135288 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0105 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Panama City, 9 Jun (DPA)—Members of the ruling Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) of Panana, the so-called grassroots leaders, have met to organize and restructure the leadership of that political group for the 1989 elections.

Legislator Rigoberto Paredes, former PRD secretary and one of its spokesmen, told DPA that "there will be a restructuring of the hierarchy" currently headed by Dr Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, spokesman for General Noriega in the unsuccessful talks with U.S. State Department envoys.

The legislator pointed out: "I can tell you there have been firm talks to elect a new National Executive Committee, because the party lacks strength to face the upcoming elections under Escobar's leadership. [quotation mark as received]

Romulo Escobar Bethancourt assumed the PRD presidency in mid-1985, replacing Professor Berta Torrijos de Arosemena, sister of the late General Omar Torrijos Herrera and current ambassador to Spain.

Members Request Change

PA1006174588 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 10 Jun 88 p 1-A

[Report by Edmundo D. Dolphy C.]

[Text] The leadership of the rank-and-file and midlevel members [base y mandos medios] of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) will use its power and call for a meeting during the middle of the month to request the total or partial removal of the National Executive Committee (CEN).

This decision was announced yesterday at noon during a news conference hosted by several PRD leaders, including corregimiento representative Olivia de Pomares, National Lottery Director Ana Villa de Flores, Humberto Lopez Tirone, Social Security Fund Secretary General Miguel Angel Picard Ami, and Legislator Rigoberto Paredes.

Although it was not stated, it was clear that the leadership of the rank-and-file is not pleased with the current CEN and therefore demands a return to the true ideals of Torrijoism.

"There is a possibility that at the next meeting we will also discuss changes within the party, because the activity within any party must reflect these conditions [not further identified] and nobody should think he has a permanent position," Legislator Rigoberto Paredes emphatically stated.

"This party, its life and its strength, lies in its capacity for renewal, and I believe the CEN members are aware that they must make room now for new blood, for a new generation in this new party, personified by the leadership of the rank-and-file and mid-level members," Paredes pointed out.

Meanwhile, Humberto Lopez Tirone called for unity and for the party's national leadership to fulfill what was decided on 15 January by the PRD Directorate, and thus allow all the political groups within the party to have honesty as a plan of action and as a banner of the ethical values of Torrijoism.

Escobar on Crisis, Unity

PA1106042288 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2105 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Question and answer session with Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, president of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, and unidentified party members during a meeting held at the Las Islas Room of the Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City—live]

[Excerpts] [Escobar] [Passage omitted] In June 1987, when the current crisis began, when the most aggressive phase of the current crisis began, our party, through its Political Commission, clearly stated that this was a maneuver of U.S. imperialism aimed at destabilizing our country, aimed at overthrowing the government and installing a puppet government. We added that the United States' main goal was to continue disregarding the Torrijos-Carter Treaties and arrive at the end of this century with a weak and submissive government that would accept its presence, especially U.S. military presence, in our country beyond the year 2000. We also said that they were trying to destroy Panama's banking center and transfer all the banking operations to Miami and other cities in the United States. This was what the PRD said in June 1987, and we continue to believe this. The events that followed proved that the PRD was right. [passage omitted]

Local groups were used to continue the destabilization process within the country. They went abroad to tell the world that Panama had many domestic problems. Many of those small problems were presented as gigantic problems. The idea behind this was to discredit our homeland before the world. General Manuel Antonio Noriega's problem was presented as the main issue in this conflict. They tried to show that there were problems among the Panama Defense Force [FDP] commanders and officers. The truth is that since 1968, when our leader Omar Torrijos Herrera assumed command, the FDP has been an organization that has maintained a nationalist, anti-imperialist, firm, and vertical position. The FDP has not changed and it will continue to abide by its principles through the year 2000 after Panama has assumed total control of the canal. All these maneuvers have crashed into a firm and solid wall built by our party, the FDP, and the Panamanian people. [passage omitted]

We have always said that fruitful negotiations between our two countries would have to be based on the termination of the aggression expressed in the unfair financial sanctions imposed on our homeland. We always said that it was necessary to review each and every violation of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties. I am proud to say that the day those talks broke off, the day I took the U.S. citizens to see Noriega, they were asked, and I quote: Who failed to fulfill the requirements of the talks? The U.S. citizens had to agree that they had failed. They also admitted that they failed because in their country they were unable to control the various sectors that approved, or disapproved, of a negotiated agreement with the Republic of Panama. [passage omitted]

They cannot accuse Gen Noriega of failing to fulfill an agreement. When the talks began, and following a proposal presented by the Panamanian side, we said that the talks would be successful only if both parties respected each of the points discussed. We said this knowing that the United States always agrees with, and later disregards, all that has been said. When we presented the list of issues to be discussed and pointed out the ones they were disregarding, the only thing they could say was that they could not keep their press from reporting everything that was going on or control their politicians, who were fighting their own campaign battles.

We feel that this is the perfect opportunity to state that we cannot allow the United States to use the Panamanian problem as a campaign issue. They are to blame for our problems. They attacked our country for reasons which we have already mentioned, and they are planning to continue along these same lines because they want to force us to yield and accept a new treaty with the United States. [passage omitted]

[Party member] I, a fellow party member, would like to know when the CEN will resign as requested by the National Directorate on 15 January 1988. At that time the National Directorate requested that all CEN members offer their resignations. Also, why are party members asking for changes within the CEN?

[Escobar] First, you must remember that when the 15 January request was made, it was also stated that the Directorate would meet on 11 March. During the 11 March meeting the CEN would present its resignation and the Directorate would appoint the new members.

We called for the 11 March meeting to present our resignation to the National Directorate. At that time, the Political Commission agreed to advise all the members of the Directorate that, because of the current situation, it would not be wise to make any abrupt changes within the party's CEN. For the record, I wish to state that at that meeting—and many who attended the meeting will corroborate this—I was against the postponement of the meeting that would appoint the new CEN, and I insisted that we present our letters of resignation. I am saying this so you will know that I will always be the first to abide by

the Directorate's orders. As party president I was against the postponement of the meeting that would appoint the new CEN. [passage omitted]

You have asked why no one has suggested the possibility of our country breaking diplomatic relations with the United States until that country stops strangling and attacking us. Well, the truth is that this has been suggested. This is not a recent suggestion; it was suggested last year. It has been suggested to the government on several occasions. We have talked about the pros and cons of such a step. Our experiences in breaking off diplomatic relations have not been good, especially when we are talking about a break in diplomatic relations between two countries that, like Panama and the United States, are strongly united by many economic ties, by the canal, and so on. [passage omitted]

We have studied the possibility of breaking off diplomatic relations with the United States on several occasions; however, we have concluded that this step, symbolically very positive but not practical, would not help resolve Panama's problems.

Why have we put up with Ambassador Arthur Davis' presence in Panama for so long? This is also an issue that has been discussed by the government on various occasions.

In the past, during Eric Arturo Delvalle's government, it was said that Arthur Davis' withdrawal would not really be the solution to the problem because he is not the one that directs the destabilization process in Panama. The destabilization and aggression against Panama is directed from the U.S. Embassy, but not by the ambassador; these actions are directed by [Deputy Chief of Mission John] Maisto. [passage omitted]

The United States only recognizes Eric Arturo Delvalle's government and has refused to respect the decisions made by Manuel Solis Palma. Knowing that this is the U.S. Government's attitude, if we were to declare Ambassador Davis persona non grata and ask him to leave the country, the United States would simply ignore this order based on the fact that they do not consider Solis Palma's government a legal government.

As a matter of fact, we have proof that this is the way they would react. This is the way they reacted when we requested the withdrawal of a lower-level embassy employee. But at that time we had more important problems to worry about. We did not have time to waste on whether the lower-level employee would be withdrawn or on whether the United States would recognize President Manuel Solis Palma's government. [passage omitted]

We have always supported presidents who were not members of our party. I think that this has taught us a lesson. We have always said, not only during party meetings but also during State Council and other meetings, that despite any alliance, the presidential candidate must be a PRD member. [applause] We are not going to be burdened with a presidential candidate who is a member of another party. The head of the executive branch is the country's leader. If the country's leader is not a member of the PRD, then it is very difficult to offer political guidance in line with our party plans.

You have asked me whether the party has already chosen its presidential candidate and whether we are making sure that we do not make the same mistake we made in 1984.

No, we have not chosen a candidate yet. We have approximately 1,000 candidates in our party. The problem is that no one dares to admit it because they are afraid of being blackballed. All of them are keeping their aspirations quiet, but we have an idea of who they are. We have not selected a candidate, however. I feel that a party congress should determine who will be our presidential candidate.

We want to know whether our party leadership is thinking of another alliance for the upcoming elections but avoiding the catastrophic mistakes made with the 1984 alliance. This question was asked by the National Lottery workers.

I honestly feel that we have to form an alliance for the upcoming elections. If our current Electoral Law is not changed, then we will have to form an alliance. [passage omitted]

I also have been asked: What would happen to the party if Gen Noriega retires? Is the general a member of a political party?

The general is not a member of a political party. I am almost sure that the day he retires we will try to get him to join the PRD. As far as we are concerned, Gen Noriega is the most authentic representative of the Torrijos way of thinking. We have always known that Gen Noriega—back then Colonel Noriega—was General Torrijos' right-hand man, the man Torrijos trusted blindly. We worked for Gen Torrijos, and we know this is true. [applause] [passage omitted]

What will happen to the party if the general retires? Well, I cannot answer that question because we have not thought about his retirement. Just like the rock of Gibraltar, Gen Noriega remains firm despite all that has been done to have him removed. [applause] We want our attackers to know that Gen Noriega has not only the support of the FDP but also the support of the PRD. [passage omitted]

Opposition Holds Anniversary Mass, Rally

PA1006164388 Paris AFP in Spanish 0327 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Panama City, 9 Jun (AFP)—Approximately 300 opposition members gathered at the Cristo Rey Church in this capital to shout antigovernment slogans and attend a mass to commemorate the first anniversary of the Civic Crusade's foundation.

The organization—comprising approximatley 100 opposition business, professional, and labor groups—led the demonstrations organized until 2 months ago to demand the resignation of Defense Forces Commander General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Today's demonstration ended peacefully after the priest offering the mass read Bible passages that he related to the situation that has afflicted Panama for the past year.

The Panamanian crisis began after former Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera issued charges against his immediate superior—Gen Noriega—accusing him of drug trafficking, human rights violations, and corruption.

Since then, the Civic Crusade, supported by the Reagan administration, successfully began a series of marches and street demonstrations—which nevertheless became weaker until they disappeared 2 months ago—without achieving their goal of ousting Noriega.

However, Noriega seems to have strengthened his position as commander, and a government party official even said that Noriega would be "a very good presidential candidate" in the 1989 elections, "thanks to the great publicity the United States has given him with its attacks and economic sanctions."

Crusade Comments

PA1006131988 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
2007 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Panama City, 9 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—On the occasion of its first anniversary today, the opposition National Civic Crusade [CCN] urged its organizations to continue the struggle to attain "justice, liberty, democracy, and honesty." [passage omitted]

A communique issued by the CCN today stated: "During this year, the Panamanian people, through civic and peaceful resistance, have managed to truly become aware of the causes for the national problem, unmask General Noriega, and undermine the political foundation of a corrupt regime."

CCN leaders and representatives of opposition parties, including the Authentic Panamenist Party and the Christian Democratic Party, called for the continuation of the "peaceful struggle."

CCN leader Tomas Herrera reported that the Crusade was going to continue the same strategy used up to now: "maintain a peaceful CCN struggle" and request domestic and international solidarity with their cause.

Herrera noted that the country's "most serious economic and social crisis" will end only with Noriega's departure, a genuine and true democratization of the country, and the Defense Forces' respect for the Constitution and the law.

He added that the country also needs to reorganize the judicial branch, the Attorney General's Office, the Comptroller General's Office, and the Electoral Tribunal. He said the country needs a government that promotes reconciliation and reconstruction with "broad popular support." CCN reported that all protests have been and are still repressed "by the military forces and through police- legal persecution."

The opposition communique stated that "several people have been murdered, and many were wounded for expressing their freedom-seeking principles. Today, we respectfully remember those who offered their lives for their principles and those who were wounded for the same reason." [passage omitted]

According to the CCN, "the people—peacefully and brandishing civic convictions as their only weapon—are confronting a military dictatorship that is different from all other Latin American dictatorships because of its well-known links to international drug trafficking." [passage omitted]

Civic Crusade on Failure of U.S.-Noriega Talks

PA1006155188 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
1226 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Panama City, 10 June (ACAN-EFE)—The opposition's Civic Crusade has described the unsuccessful "negotiations" between the U.S. Government and General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], as "humiliating" for the U.S. Justice Department, U.S. Senate, and the Panamanian people.

In a communique, the civic organization said that the talks, in which the opposition did not participate, were to "save both sides of the face" ["salvar la cara de ambas partes"].

The communique added that Noriega made a "fatal mistake" by ensuring that the "negotiations" failed and that "he has demonstrated that he does not care about the Panamanian people's economic woes." [passage omitted]

In addition, the Civic Crusade said the creation of a Strategic Military Council (CEM) "shows the administrative inability of the state's civilian institutions and the FDP General Staff."

According to the Civic Crusade, the creation of the CEM shows that Noriega does not trust the FDP officers." [quotation mark as received]

"The CEM's real objective is having greater control over the FDP," the communique added.

In conclusion, the Civic Crusade's communique said there are no guarantees for the 1989 elections, adding that "even if the opposition won," there will be no solution until the military forces withdraw to their barracks and subordinate themselves to civilian power.

However, authorities have reiterated there will be elections in 1989 and that both the government and the FDP will guarantee their purity.

Argentina

Senate Approves Top Military Promotions

PY0906130788 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0155 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 8 Jun (NA)—The Senate tonight "unanimously" approved promotions for Jose Dante Caridi, Ramon Arosa, and Ernesto Crespo to the highest positions in the Army, Navy, and Air Force respectively. The chiefs of staff of the three Armed Forces branches will thus occupy the positions that have been vacant since the installation of the current democratic government.

According to the Executive Branch request , which was sent to the Senate for approval, Caridi was promoted to lieutenant general, Arosa to admiral, and Crespo to brigadier general. [passage omitted]

Peronist Faction Requests Party Elections Delay

PY1006215788 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2142 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Jun (NA)—The Peronist faction led by La Rioja Governor Carlos Raul Menem has asked the Justicialist Party National Electoral Board to postpone the party's internal elections until the end of July. The request was made through a formal note in which they request that the deadlines established by the national electoral law be applied to the party's elections.

In the note, the Menem-led faction's attorney, Cesar Arias, maintains that the list of party members should have been made public for 30 days as in the case of national elections.

Elections Planned for 26 Jun

PY1206192888 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2206 GMT 11 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Trelew (Chubut), 11 Jun (NA)—Justicialist President Antonio Cafiero ratified today that the party's internal elections will be held on 26 June, because "there are no political or technical reasons" to postpone them. He then criticized the Menem-lead faction, noting that "they are using the idea of postponing the elections as a trick, not realizing that they are thus forecasting their own failure." [passage omitted]

The Justicialist presidential PRC-candidate made this statement during a campaign tour through the outlying neighborhoods of Trelew, Rawson, and Puerto Madryn.

Brazil

PMDB Factions, Guimaraes Election Discussed

PY1306144688 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 12 Jun 88 p 6

[Text] Brasilia—Ulysses Guimaraes, the PMDB president and national deputy, has not yet committed himself with either the moderate PMDB faction, or with the other faction of the center-left party—the new PMDB faction. The two factions will confront each other in the national convention scheduled for 21 August. The current PMDB president is the "natural" candidate for reelection during the renewal of the PMDB directorate and national executive board. However, he must choose between the two slates.

If it were up to Guimaraes, however, there would be no confrontation at all—once again, an agreement would be sought between the two factions, thus continuing the "compromise slate" [chapao] system that was adopted in 1973. The only confrontation within the PMDB occurred in 1971 when Guimaraes, running for the moderate faction, beat Josafa Marinho, running for the rival faction.

The new PMDB faction is now challenging the moderate faction, by nominating a slate to contest the national convention, thus rejecting any type of agreement. Headed by Carlos Sant'Anna, Roberto Cardoso Alves, and Milton Reis (the PMDB secretary general), the moderate faction has picked up the gauntlet. The situation became worse when Deputy Marcio Braga (Rio de Janeiro State) warned that the new PMDB faction would not accept [Sao Paulo] Governor Orestes Quercia and [Minas Gerais] Governor Newton Cardozo in the would-be national directorate.

Hesitant about what faction to support in the internal PMDB split, Guimaraes has also not made a decision whether to seek reelection as Chamber of Deputies president. However, this decision does not depend on him alone. In order for Guimaraes to run for his current post it will be necessary to change the draft constitution, which bans the reelection of the Chamber of Deputies president and Senate president.

Guimaraes does not lack support. Deputy Paes de Andrade (Ceara State), who is among those running for Chamber of Deputies president, says that he is willing to give up his candidacy and give Guimaraes an opportunity as long as the multi-president is entitled and willing to run. Guimaraes met with Paes de Andrada yesterday morning. The Ceara deputy said that he has achieved favorable fesults so far in his campaign.

Chile

Matthei Denies Presidential Candidate Named

PY1306190888 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Report by Graciela Contreras from La Moneda Palace]

[Excerpt] Air Force Commander General Fernando Matthei, who is also a member of the Government Junta, has categorically denied that the commanders in chief of the

Armed Forces have already appointed the candidate for the Presidency of the Republic for the upcoming plebiscite.

He said that a rumor of this kind shows the desire of some people to be in the limelight because this information is not true.

Matthei made this statement upon arriving in La Moneda Palace to participate in a routine luncheon with the other members of the Government Junta, which is headed by the chief of state. [passage omitted]

PCCh Not To Recognize Yes Vote Victory

PY1406230188 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 8 Jun 88 p C-2

[Text] Yesterday the outlawed Communist Party (PCCh) said that it will not accept a yes vote victory and that, regardless of the plebiscite outcome, it will continue to fight to put a "complete end" to the current regime and its economic and social model.

Jose Sanfuentes, PCCh spokesman and United Left secretary general, made these remarks when commenting on a speech President Pinochet delivered yesterday in Arica. During the speech, Pinochet said a no vote victory would paralyze the country economically. Sanfuentes said the country will be paralyzed "if the yes vote wins, because it is clear to Chileans and to the rest of the world that Pinochet is supported by a minority of the people. Therefore, if the yes vote wins in the plebiscite, it will prove that the plebiscite was a fraud.

"A yes vote victory will result in several economic difficulties, many investors will lose interest in investing in Chile, and businessmen will have plenty of problems. The people may go into the streets and thereby paralyze the country, because the people will demand that Pinochet leave the power, that the dictatorship end, and that free and democratic elections be held in Chile," Sanfuentes said.

The Marxist leader pointed out, however, that "regardless of the plebiscite outcome, we Communists will continue to fight for the complete democratization of the country and for the immediate end of the dictatorship and of its social and economic model."

Sanfuentes concluded by saying that the PChC will not recognize a yes vote victory.

Government Rejects Observers to Plebiscite

PY1306191488 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] The Chilean Foreign Ministry has stated that Chile will not accept the presence of foreign observers who may wish come to oversee the upcoming plebiscite, and it has sent a circular to all embassies in Santiago to this effect.

This information was confirmed today by the Foreign Ministry spokesman, Carlos Ducci, who added that the embassies accredited to Chile have also been informed that Chilean borders will remain open during the plebiscite and all tourists who want to visit our country will be welcome, as they have always been.

Carlos Ducci stated, however, that the Foreign Ministry categorically rejects the presence of any observer because it would represent an absolutely improper act of interference, which the Chilean Government will not tolerate.

Ducci added that, in keeping with our Constitution, Chile has a competent body in charge of supevising elections, such as our Electoral Court. Consequently, the Foreign Ministry does not recognize any foreigner as a person qualified for this purpose.

Poll on Plebiscite, Government Performance

PY1306234588 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 5 Jun 88 p A-1, A-13

[All figures as published]

[Text] According to a national survey conducted by the specialized firm Skopus last April, 53.2 percent of Chileans will vote "yes" in the upcoming plebiscite.

The survey questioned 22,000 people, and considered the inclination of undecided votes, because unlike other surveys, the Skopus study assesses preferences of an important portion of those who are undecided.

The study surveyed all regions of the country and obtained results similar to those obtained by the University of Chile, which conducted its own survey around the same time. The Skopus poll found that 35 percent of those questioned favored the "no vote," while 11.7 are truly undecided. The last figure represents people who declined to give an opinion.

The survey also shows that the undecided are nevertheless interested in the electoral process.

A large percentage of the undecided—74.9 percent—think the plebiscite is important for the future of the country. Only 7.5 percent view it as unimportant. A full 17.6 percent do not have an opinion.

The survey also asked the undecided to judge the government's performance. The answers showed that 51 pecent of those surveyed think that the government's performance has been "good."

Only 28.2 percent termed the government's performance "bad," while 20.8 "did not know."

The same survey showed that 42.2 percent of the undecided think that the work of the opposition is "negative." Only 24.4 percent of those surveyed think it is "positive," while 33.4 percent "did not know."

At the end of the report the firm makes a forecast of the plebiscite results. The poll was carried out in February and April.

The data shows that the numbers of those who think that the "yes vote" will win in the plebiscite increased in April.

In February, 43.94 percent of those surveyed thought the "yes vote" would win, while 20.51 percent thought the 'no vote" would win. A total of 33.55 percent were undecided.

In April 49.5 percent of those surveyed thought the "yes vote" would win, an increase of 6 percent. Those who thought that the "no vote" would win increased to 23.9 percent, and those who "did not know" dropped to 26.7 percent.

Regarding the trend of the "yes vote," in April 35.7 percent of those questioned thought the support for the "yes vote" was increasing, as opposed to 29.65 percent in February.

Regarding the "no vote," in April, 29.7 percent of those questioned thought the support for the "no vote" was increasing, as opposed to 25.03 percent in February.

Finally, the number of those who were not aware of the trends decreased from 45.32 in February to 34.6 percent in April.

Colombia

New Justice Minister Criticizes Barco

PA1306231888 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1741 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Bogota, 13 Jun (EFE)—Jaime Bernal, the new Colombian justice minister, today criticized President Virgilio Barco's measures and proposals, such as the antiterrorist law in force since February, the creation of a constitutional tribunal, and the policy to extradite drug traffickers to the United States.

Bernal, the sixth minister of justice in Barco's administration in less than 2 years, was appointed on Friday and will assume office tomorrow. His remarks to the press today caused a commotion in the country. He said: "If the extradition policy is carried out, I will not assume office."

When asked about one of Barco's recent proposals, Bernal said: "I do not agree with the creation of a constitutional tribunal or agencies parallel to the Supreme Court of Justice."

He added: "I disagree in part with the antiterrorist law because it contains stipulations already included in the Penal Code. In addition, some of its provisos are confusing and are not expressed in the requisite technical language. Furthermore, this law contributes nothing to the solution of legal problems."

He said: "I admire and respect the president. Nevertheless, I am forced to express my viewpoint because I am a lawyer and not a politician. However, I would be forced to refuse the position if my personal viewpoint becomes an obstacle hindering the government from dealing with crime in its own way." Bernal said that he is not imposing conditions on Barco and that he has not spoken to the president since officials informed him that he had been designated justice minister. Bernal said he only wants to present his "legal viewpoint" to the president.

The new minister was appointed when his predecessor, Luis Guillermo Giraldo, resigned the post only 24 hours after having accepted the appointment. The resignation occurred after newspapers called attention to his role in a case of fraud against the National Treasury several years ago.

In his remarks following his appointment on Friday, Bernal flatly asserted that, unlike his predecessors, he would not regard drug trafficking as a priority.

He said today: "I think the Justice Ministry cannot be an antidrug ministry." Local news media today doubted that he will assume office tomorrow because of his views.

Political observers and the press have questioned several of the ministers appointed by Barco on Thursday because of alleged past misconduct, but only Giraldo resigned over such reports.

Barco Revokes Appointment

PA1406030988 Paris AFP in Spanish 0249 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] Bogota, 13 Jun (AFP)—Colombian President Virgilio Barco this evening revoked the appointment of Jaime Bernal Cuellar as justice minister.

The president felt that is was unacceptable for Bernal to have imposed views contrary to the administration's official policy on extraditions.

This is the second change of justice minister in the past 72 hours following Barco's cabinet reorganization made on Thursday.

Ecuador

Reports on Activities of President-Elect Borja

In 'Excellent' Health

PA1106010388 Paris AFP in Spanish 1614 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 10 Jun (AFP)—Ecuadoran President-Elect Rodrigo Borja is in excellent health and is ready to take office in August, according to a statement made today by Antonio Gagliardo, who accompanied Borja on his trip to the United States for a complete medical check-up.

Gagliardo, a high-ranking fellow member of the Democratic Left, said that Borja and he had arrived in Guayaquil from the United States, after being away for 8 days, and that the president-elect would be traveling home today to Quito.

Borja was elected to the Presidency in May. He will succeed Conservative President Leon Febres-Cordero on 10 August.

Supports ALADI Efforts

PA1206154888 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 11 Jun 88

[Text] Ecuadoran President-Elect Rodrigo Borja Cevallos has promised his total support to the cause of regional peace, unity, and solidarity in a note addressed to ALADI.

Borja, who will assume the Ecuadoran presidency on 10 August, said that he will also support the efforts for regional concerted action and integration to resolve our own problems.

Borja's letter was in reply to a congratulatory letter he received from Ricardo Campero, president of the Committee of Representatives, and ALADI Secretary General Norberto Berzaina, whose permanent headquarters is in Montevideo.

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela are currently ALADI's member countries. Other nations and international organizations have joined as observers.

Names Health Minister

PA1406044288 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2117 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Quito, 13 Jun (DPA)—Rodrigo Borja Cevallos, Ecuador's Social Democratic president-elect, has appointed Plutarco Naranjo, a doctor and scientist, as public health minister for his government that will take office on 10 August 1988.

Borja previously appointed Diego Cordovez as foreign minister. Cordovez is currently a United Nations under secretary general and principal negotiator in the Afghanistan conflict.

Borja made the announcement a few hours after his return from the United States, where he spent a week undergoing "routine" medical examinations.

The other members of Borja's cabinet are being kept secret.

Paraguay

President Stroessner Returns From U.S.

PY1106014788 Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish 2230 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Excerpt] This afternoon Paraguayan President General Alfredo Stroessner returned to Asuncion after spending several days in the United States, where he traveled together with a selected group of people on Saturday. During his stay in the United States the president spoke at the UN special assembly on disarmament in New York.

President Stroessner and his entourage also visited Orlando, Florida, where they toured several places of tourist interest such as Sea World, the Epcot Center, and Disney World.

At Asuncion International Airport President Stroessner was welcomed by Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro, who was left in charge of the presidential office, and by General Andres Rodriguez, who was left in charge of the office of the commander in chief of the Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

To Visit Taiwan

PY1106145288 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 11 Jun 88 p 7

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Carlos Augusto Saldivar has reported that President General Alfredo Stroessner's next trip will be to Taiwan. Minister Saldivar said the visit is scheduled for 10 October. He also said that Paraguay and Taiwan may sign some agreements during the visit. [passage omitted]

Colorado Groups Seek Transition Government

PY1006165688 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 10 Jun 88 p 9

[Text] The Colorado Popular Movement for Convergence and Party Unity, and the National Republican Association in Exile and Resistance, which are splinter groups of the Colorado Party that oppose the government, yesterday released a document containing proposals for a "government of transition."

One of the main points of the proposal calls for the "urgent installation of a Colorado Party government for democratic transition with the main goal of conducting the institutional reorganization necessary to reestablish a genuine representative, pluralistic, and participatory democracy with social justice within a period of 2 and 1/2 years."

One of the important aspects of the announcement of the public document was the presence of members of the "traditionalist" sector of the Colorado Party, including Percio Da Silva, Angel Roberto Seifart, Derlis Esteche, and other opposition Colorado Party leaders, such as

Luis Becker, former president of the Colorado Party Precinct of Ypacarai and former national deputy. All of them expressed support for the proposal.

The meeting was held at the private house of Julio Cesar Vasconsellos, second vice president of the Colorado Popular Movement for Convergence and Party Unity. The proposal was presented by Mario Mallorquin, president of that political organization. The other people who also spoke on this occasion were Enrique Riera, Rodolfo Udrizar, Julio Cesar Vasconcellos, Angel Roberto Seifart, and Hermes Saguier, leader of the PLRA [Authentic Radical Liberal Party].

Radio Nanduti Director Denied New Passport
PY1106190388 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 11 Jun 88 p 10

[Text] Radio Nanduti Director Humberto Rubin has reported: "Dr Ceferino Pena, Asuncion police identifications director, called me last week to tell me officially that the government has decided to not issue me another passport because I said bad things about the country abroad."

"When I told him that I did not say anything abroad that I did not say here, Dr Pena replied that he was complying with orders from above and that he had asked me to come to his office because he did not want to give me the news by telephone," Rubin added.

"I have been trying to get a passport for 3 months. My old one was taken away from me in February 1987 when I was leaving for Madrid. The old passport was about to expire," Rubin explained.

Febrerista Youth Party Leader Detained
PY1006192088 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 10 Jun 88 p 8

[Text] Case del Pueblo spokesmen have reported that Dr Anibal Carrillo Iramain, secretary general of the Febrerista Revolutionary Youth (JRF), was detained last night at his office.

According to reports, the youth leader was detained at his medical office at about 1915 and taken to the central police precinct. Carrillo Iramain is one of the main organizers of the so-called "Meetings of Southern Cone Political Youths," which have been forbidden by the government. The meetings, which will be attended by youths from several Latin American political parties, will start tomorrow.

The spokesmen also expressed concern about the situation of other JRF leaders who are preparing for the meetings.

Peru

Second-Highest Shining Path Leader Arrested
PY1306225388 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] The second-highest leader of the Shining Path terrorist group, Osman Morote Barrionuevo, was presented to the media by police at noon today. He was detained at a building near the Palace of Justice.

Milema Rios interviewed Peruvian Investigative Police Colonel Javier Palacios, of Dircote [Directorate Against Terrorism]:

[Begin recording] [Palacios] It was reported that this individual, known as Osman Morote Barrionuevo, went to the settlement or (?capital) of Guzman. As a result, the police started a dragnet and captured him near the Palace of Justice.

At about 0300-0400 yesterday morning, Morote was found at 432 Miguel Cuadros, between [name indistinct] and Cercado Streets. Miguel Cuadros is a narrow street four blocks behind the Palace of Justice. Upon his arrest, Monroe identified himself as Lopez Saraiva Manuel Gilberto, with voter card No 19672945.

[Reporter] Please repeat the number.

[Palacios] No 19672945. The voter card, which I will show you right now, indicates that it was issued in [name indistinct] district, Cuzco Province, Libertad Department, and was registered in book No 098581. Investigations showed that this card was stolen by subversives at the San Jose Porcon District, Santiago de Chuco Province. This is the voter card.

[Reporter] When was it stolen?

[Palacios] The San Jose Porcon District was robbed by a subversive last year. On the occasion, the individual stole several voters' cards, including this one.

After Morote was detained in possession of this card, his fingerprints were taken and we discovered that he was Osman Morote Barrionuevo.

He is the son of Efraim Morote Best, former rector of the San Cristobal University in Huamanga. Morote is an anthropologist and has taught at the San Cristobal University.

He is married to Juana Teresa Duran Araujo, alias Comrade (Riqui). His sister, Katia Morote, is married to (Julio Casanova Rodrigues)—another important member of the Shining Path—who was held at the Fronton Penitentiary for some time and later released. His brother, Arturo Morote, is married to Cristina Casanova Rodriguez. All this indicates that these individuals are related and have deep connections with the Shining Path subversive organization. [end recording]

Sabotage Causes Blackout of 'Most' of Country

PY1106030188 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0209 GMT 11 Jun 88

[Text] Lima, 10 Jun (EFE)—Tonight the Maoist Shining Path sabotaged the national power grid thereby blacking out most of Peru.

The blackout was felt in Lima and over approximately 900 km along the coast, an area between Trujillo in the north and Ica in the south. Large Andean towns and communities such as Ayacucho were also blacked out.

On La Picota hill, close to Ayacucho city, the Shining Path set up a huge bonfire in the shape of the hammer and sickle. The bonfire could be seen clearly anywhere in the city, which has been paralyzed for 3 days now by a teachers strike which developed into a general strike in Ayacucho.

Radio stations reported that the destruction of high-voltage towers of the Mantaro power grid caused the blackout. The Mantaro hydroelectric dam in the Andes supplies electricity to 9 of the 24 Peruvian departments where three quarters of the Peruvian population lives.

The sabotage against the power grid has come in the wake of a wave of terrorist violence which has caused 12 deaths in the last 3 days, daily disruption of public order stemming from various strikes such as of public school teachers and construction workers, and the agitation that is shaking Lima state universities.

Congressmen Summoned to Special Session

PY1306022888 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] The presidents of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate have summoned all legislators to a special Congress session for 14 June at 1700, in compliance with Article 168 of the Constitution.

As is known, the president of the Republic has summoned two special congress sessions. The regionalization process will be discussed during the first session, from 14-26 June. The second special session, from 27-28 June, will allow Armando Villanueva del Campo, president of the Council of Ministers, to explain his general cabinet plan to the national Congress.

Uruguay

Cuban Envoy's 'Attitude' Annoys Government

PY1006141988 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0930 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Today EL PAIS reported on its front page that high-level governemnt officials are annoyed over the attitude of Cuban Ambassador Joaquin Mas Martinez.

EL PAIS says that according to reliable sources, the Cuban ambassador on several occasions made public political statements and held heated arguments. Such actions are not in keeping with diplomatic protocol. The report adds that Foreign Minister Luis Barrios Tassano, who is currently attending a UN meeting in New York, has been informed about the matter.

Future Joint Ventures With USSR Outlined

PY1106161788 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0400 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Montevideo, 10 Jun (EFE)—Today in Montevideo it was reported that Uruguay and the Soviet Union are planning the creation of joint companies that will manufacture electrical articles, tractors, and automobiles.

Nikolay Frolov, the Soviet commercial attache in Montevideo, has told the press that the enterprises will be created with capital from the Uruguayan private sector and from the Soviet state sector.

The first enterprise to be created will manufacture electricity meters to supply Uruguay's domestic demand and for export, mainly to Argentina and Brazil.

According to Frolov, the meters will be assembled in Uruguay from parts manufactured in the Soviet Union.

The plan for 1989 is to begin the assembly of a very economical line of automobiles through industrial integration between a Soviet state enterprise and private Uruguayan capital.

According to Frolov, the automobiles will have very competitive prices in order to gain markets in other countries of the area.

The Soviet commercial attache also reported that the joint industrial enterprises (joint ventures) will also include the assembly of tractors with Uruguayan manpower, Soviet parts, and U.S. engines.

The Soviet Union is also planning the construction of a very large warehouse in the free zone of Nueva Palmira, Uruguay, to supply the industries with the necessary parts and spares, Frolov added.

Next week Soviet Ambassador to Uruguay Igor Laptev will meet with Nestor Consentino, president of the Uruguayan Chamber of Industries, to define some aspects of the negotiations and the creation of a Uruguayan-Soviet Chamber of Commerce.